Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR...

Inventors: Steven I. Ross, et al.

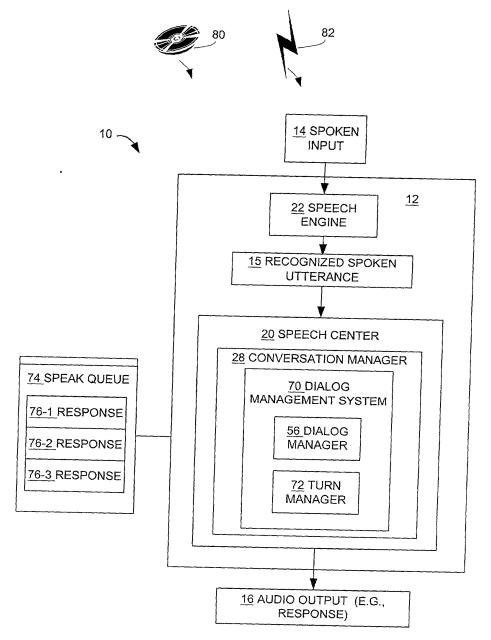


FIG. 1

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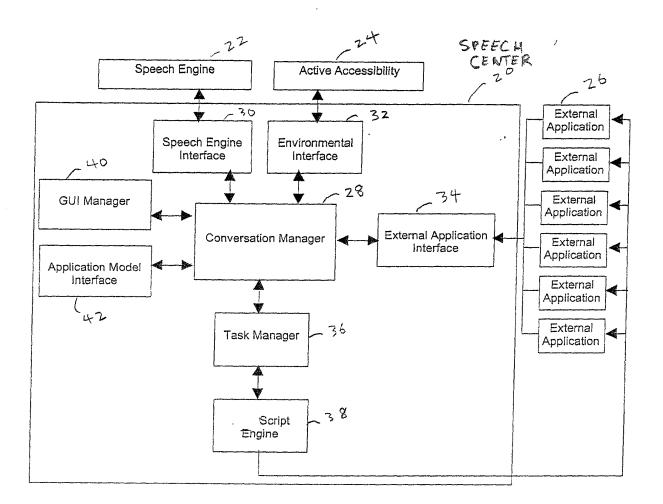


Fig. 2

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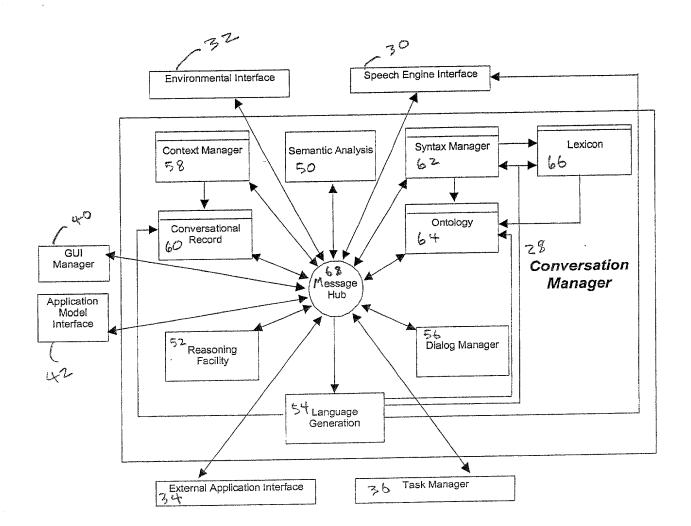


Fig. 3

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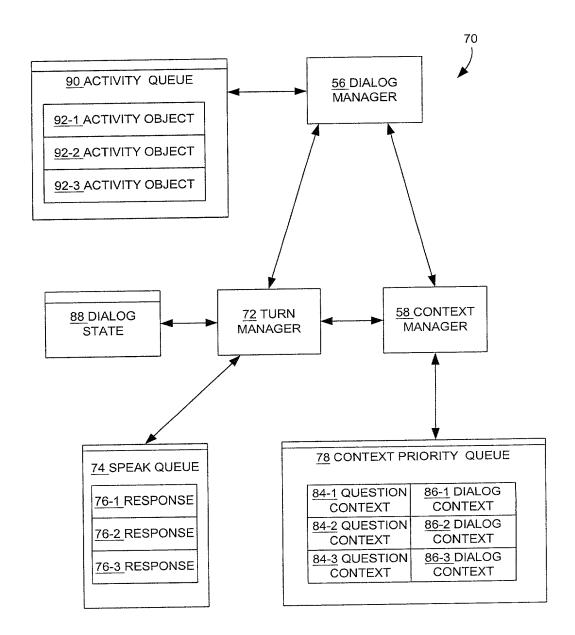


FIG. 4

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR...

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100 102 RECEIVE SPOKEN INPUT FROM A USER OF A COMPUTER SYSTEM THROUGH AN AUDIO INPUT INTERFACE. 104 GENERATE ONE OR MORE RESPONSES BASED ON THE SPOKEN INPUT OR ON OTHER SOURCES (E.G., ANNOUNCEMENT OF A COMPLETED ACTIVITY). 106 RECEIVE THE GENERATED RESPONSES AT THE DIALOG MANAGER. 108 PLACE THE GENERATED RESPONSES IN A SPEAK QUEUE. 110 MANAGE THE AUDIBLE RENDERING OF THE RESPONSES FROM THE QUEUE THROUGH THE AUDIO OUTPUT DEVICE SO THAT THE USER RECEIVES EACH RESPONSE AS PART OF A DIALOG BETWEEN THE COMPUTER AND THE USER CONDUCTED IN POLITE MANNER SUBJECT TO THE CONTROL OF THE USER. YES 112 MORE INPUT PROVIDED BY USER? NO 114 END DIALOG.

FIG. 5